RE. BILL FOR RESERVATION OF SEATS FOR WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT AND STATE LEGISLATURES

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, will you permit me to raise a very important point? (*Interruptions*) I am raising the issue of Women's Bill. (*Interruptions*). The Government have repeatedly been making promises in this House and elsewhere. We would like to know from the Government when the Women's Bill is going to be introduced. We all stand for it—all the leading political parties, the Left parties, the B.J.P. and the Congress party, everyone has agreed. Why is the Government not introducing the Bill in this House or the other House? (Interruptions) The Government is going back on their promise (*Interruptions*).

श्री अजीत जोगी (मध्य प्रदेश) : आप अपने साथियों से पूछिए, सरकार में बैठे हैं तो क्यों विरोध कर रहे है ? . . . (**व्यवधान**) . . सरकार आप का कहना नहीं मान रही है तो वापिस आ जाओ । . . . . (**व्यवधान**) . . . घड़ियाली आंसू क्यों बहाते हो ? . . . (**व्यवधान**) . मैडम, । ये लोग घड़ियाली आंसू बहा रहे हैं । जब सरकार इनकी नहीं सुन रही है तो ये सरकार में हैं क्यों ? . . . (**व्यवधान**) . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Fernandes. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Madam, I do not know why the Government is not coming forward with a Bill. (*Interruptions*) Let the Government react. (*Interruptions*) Yesterday, there was a meeting in the Chamber of the hon. Speaker (*Interruptions*). The hon. Speaker mentioned openly to the Press and the electronic media that the B.J.P. and the Congress are not opposing the Bill; it is the constituents of the United Front who are opposing the Bill. (*Interruptions*) Now, why are they making a noise? (*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Minister wants to say something. (*Interruptions*) Will you please sit down? She wants to say something. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, we would like to make it clear that all the Left parties and many of the national parties stand by it. The Government should not feel shy to introduce the Bill. Let us bring the Bill before the House. Let the people know about the factual position. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL (Rajasthan): Madam, the Congress party stands for the Bill. We stand for the Bill. Then what is the problem? (*Interruptions*)

श्री अजीत जोगी : यह सरकार आपकी नहीं सुन रही है तो इस्तीफा दे देना चाहिए . . . (**व्यवधान**) . . . अगर सी० पी० आई० की बात सरकार नहीं सुन रही है तो ये इस्तीफा क्यों नहीं देते ? . . . . (**व्यवधान**) . . . .

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal): Madam, let the Bill be brought before the House. (*Interruptions*)

प्रो. विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा (दिल्ली): मैडम, यह एक ऐसा इश्यू है जिस पर पहली बार लेफ्ट पार्टीज बी. जे. पी. के साथ समर्थन कर रही है । इस बिल पर नेशनल पार्टीज इक्टठी हैं । लेफ्ट पार्टीज बी.जे.पी. कांग्रेस सब मिलकर इस बिल को लाना चाहती है । अब अगर यूनाइटेड फ्रंट का कोई आपसी झगड़ा है तो वह

इस झगड़े को बाहर सुलझाएं । बिल हाउस में लाएं, अगर पास होता है तो ठीक है और नहीं पास होता है. . . . (व्यवधान) . . . तो पता लगे कि क्या होने वाला है ? आप पहले बिल हाउस में लाइए ।

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Madam, I fully support the stand taken by the B.J.P. Let the Bill be introduced. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: We also want it. (*Interruptions*) . . .

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): Our party has all along, throughout, stood by it and we want to get this Bill passed. (*Interruptions*) . . .

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, let us hear the Minister. (*Interruptions*) . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: If you all sit down, she will speak. (*Interruptions*) . . . If all of you speak, her voice will not be heard. (*Interruptions*) . . . . .

आप बैठिए न, सुनने दीजिए वे क्या कह रही हैं । . (व्यवधान) . .

At least, let me hear her.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN): Madam, the Prime Minister and the Government are totally and irrevocably committed to passing the Women's Reservation Bill. (*Interruptions*) . . . If you let me finish, I will speak. Otherwise, I will sit down. (*Interruptions*) . . .

मौलाना अबैदुल्लाखान आज़मी (बिहार): महिला की बात तो सुनिए. . . (व्यवधान)

مولانا عبید اللہ خاں اعظمی: یہ لیڈر کی بات تو سنئے . . . "مداخلت" . . .[*]

[*]Transliteration in Arabic Script.

श्री वसीम अहमद (उत्तर प्रदेश): महिला की बात नहीं सुन रहे हैं । . . . (व्यवधान) . . .

श्री नरेश यादव: मेडम, ये महिला मंत्री को सुनने को तैयार नहीं हैं. (व्यवधान)

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: (Maharashtra): The Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs has stated. . . (*Interruptions*) . . . . .

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: I have not finished, Sir. (*Interruptions*) . . . . .

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: . . .On the floor of the House that the Prime Minister and his Government are committed to passing this Women' Reservation Bill. The major political parties like Congress, BJP, CPI(M) and CPI seem to be agreeable to it. You have a Steering Committee of the UF Government. Can't you sort out the problem amongst yourselves? Why don't you try to avoid this kind of a controversy when major political parties are supporting it? (*Interruptions*) . . . Why is it that you are trying to postpone the same? (*Interruptions*) . . .

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I have not finished what I was saying. I sat down before I finished. I was not allowed to speak.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, the Bill is already listed. It has been introduced and listed in the Lok Sabha. (*Interruptions*) . . . If you are going to interrupt every sentence I will not speak. It is not a debate. I have to finish what I want to say. (*Interruptions*) . . .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let her speak. Have some courtesy.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, it is true that the hon. Speaker had talks with various leaders. Even yesterday a meeting was held in the Chamber of the hon. Speaker. I am not qualified to

repeat what happened over there in this House. The hon. Speaker is trying to evolve a consensus. Apparently, some people have some objections. I don't know about it. As soon as the Lok Sabha passes the Bill, it will be brought to the Rajya Sabha and we hope we will pass the Bill in the session itself. It is now pending before the Lok Sabha. As soon as the Bill is passed by the Lok Sabha, it will be brought before the Rajya Sabha. (*Interruptions*)..

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Madam, my submission is this. I want only to remind the hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs that there is only one day left. (*Interruptions*)..

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I am sorry. I cannot keep answering everything that they ask. (*Interruptions*).. I should be allowed to finish what I am saying..(*Interruptions*)

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, as soon as the Bill is passed by the Lok Sabha it will be brought to the Rajya Sabha and we will vote on it. We are trying to evolve a consensus now. We are committed to it. All of us are working for the same thing. (*Interruptions*)..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let her finish.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, therefore, I don't want to be provoked into saying anything more about the public stand and the private stand of some people. I won't be provoked. (*Interruptions*)

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री सिकन्दर बख्त) : सदर साहिबा, मुझे एक मिनट देंगी आप ? यह तो साफ जाहिर है कि कौन-कौन सप्लीमेन्ट्री बिल फौरन लाया जाए, उसके हक में है, लेकिन युनाइटेड फ्रंट गवर्नमेंट के मानी क्या है, वह कुछ समझ में नहीं हुआ यहां है यह किस किस्म की गवर्नमेंट है

†[نیتا ورودھی دل شری سکندر بخت]: صدر صاحبہ - مجھے ایک منٹ دیں گی آپ - یہ تو صاف ظاہر ہے کہ کون کون سے میٹس

†[ ]Transilteration in Arabic Script

بل فوراً لا دیا جائے - اس حق میں ہیں لیکن یونائیٹڈ فرنٹ کے معنی کیا ہیں - وہ کچھ سمجھ میں نہیں آ رہا ہے یہ کس قسم کی گورنمنٹ ہے -]

Is it there or not ?

चव्हाण साहेबा ने सवाल पैदा किया है कि स्टीयरिंग कमेटी में इसका कोई फैसला हुआ है या नहीं हुआ है और अगर नहीं हुआ है तो क्यों नहीं हुआ है ?

†[چوہان صاحبہ نے سوال پیدا کیا ہے کہ اسٹیرنگ کمیٹی میں اسکا کوئی فیصلہ ہوا ہے یا نہیں ہوا ہے اور اگر نہیں ہوا ہے تو کیوں نہیں ہوا ہے]

The question is this: What sort of a Government is existing? Is it there or not?

देखिए यहां क्या मुरतेहाल है कि

†[دیکھئے یہاں کیا صورتحال ہے کہ]

The Congress is supporting the Government. The CPI(M) and the CPI are supporting the Government.

हम लोग तो बाहर है, अपोजीशन की हैसियत रखते है और ये दोनों साफ-साफ गवर्नमेंट के खिलाफ एक इरटीट्यूड लेते हैं कि आप यह बिल क्यों नहीं लाते है यूनाइटेड फ्रंट के माने क्या है, हमें तो वह समझाया जाए मेहरबानी करके

†[ہم لوگ تو باہر ہیں - اپوزیشن کی حیثیت رکھتے ہیں اور یہ دونوں صاف صاف گورنمنٹ کے خلاف ایک اٹیٹیچیوڈ لیتے ہیں کہ آپ یہ بل کیوں نہیں لاتے ہیں - یونائیٹڈ فرنٹ کے معنی کیا ہیں - ہمیں تو یہ سمجھایا جائے مہربانی کرکے]

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Madam, I want to say one thing. The hon. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs has just informed the House that once it is passed by the Lok Sabha it will come to the Rajya Sabha and then we will pass it. The Lok Sabha has been adjourned on this issue. Why doesn't she inform us about that? (Interruptions) ...The Lok Sabha is so much agitated over this issue. (Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: JAN: Madam, there is no procedure for me to report the proceedings of the Lok Sabha to the hon. Members. (Interruptions)...

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Do you think that there is polarisation and the two Houses are not integrated? (Interruptions)..

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: You are trying to say that I should inform what happened in the Lok Sabha to the Rajya Sabha ..(Interruptions)..

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: You con't inform us about what happened in the Lok Sabha! The Lok Sabha has been adjourned on this issue. The Members were demanding that the Women's Reservation Bill should be brought forward. (Interruptions)..

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: You read the papers as much as I do. (Interruptions)..

SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Only a minuscue number of people in the United Front are opposing it. Please those people who are opposing this Bill. Ten per cent people are dictating terms to 90 per cent people. (Interruptions). A minority of 10 per cent in both the Houses is dictating terms to 90 per cent people who are supporting this Bill. What kind of a Government is running this country? (Interruptions).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. (Interruptions).

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Maharashtra) Madam, I appreciate the Parliamentary Affairs Minister for....(Interruptions). Madam, she is harping on a consensus, the Government is harping on a consensus. Can we know one thing? Assuming there is no consensus between them, will they be bringing the Bill for a proper legislation or for an amendment to the Constitution in both the Houses or not? It requires a categorical answer.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I have not made myself clear. The Bill has already been brought. It has been introduced. (Interruptions).

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: If there is no concensus, will they ..(Interruptions)

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, the Bill has already been introduced and listed in Lok Sabha. Therefore,....(Interruptions).

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Madam, I have been long enough in Parliament to know that it has been introduced and know what the implications of the introduction are. The thing is, we want to pass it. If we want to pass it and if there is no consensus, are they going to take appropriate measures?

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I cannot ..*(Interruptions)*.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let her finish.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I once again repeat it. The Bill has already been introduced. The Government is committed to passing this Bill. The Bill is pending in Lok Sabha. *(Interruptions)*.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just a minute. Let her speak.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I deeply regret that I cannot say what they want me to say. I can only say

what has to be said and what I have to say. The Bill is pending in Lok Sabha. The hon. Speaker has called a meeting. Apparently, some people have expressed their difficulties to the hon. Speaker. Ther is no procedure by which I can report what happened in Lok Sabha in this House. In all these years of Parliamentary practice, I have not understood a procedure like that. As soon as Lok Sabha passes the Bill, it will be brought to Rajya Sabha for consideration and voting.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I would like to remind the hon. Minister about one thing. (*Interruptions*). Just a minute. I just want to remind the hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs that last week the Government business was announced here and this Bill was listed. Now it has been suddenly withdrawn from the business of this House. All those Bills which I had read out which were considered in the BAC meeting or which were discussed in the BAC meeting... (*Interrutions*).

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam:..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You also have some paitence. I am just putting the procedure. I am not saying anything against. I have just read out that those Bills which are passed in Lok Sabha will be brought over here. So far as this Bill is concerned, it was announced last week— it is a part of the records—the 81st amendment of the Constitution Bill as passed by Lok Sabha will be taken up here. But it was not put up in yesterday's Business Advisory Committee meeting. It has been withdrawn by the Government from the business of this House.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: It was not ... (*Interruptions*). Let me say it. I have to set the record straight. It was in the agenda for the Business Advisory Committee. I hesitated. Since the Chair has made a reference to it, I am constrained to report that it was in the agenda for the Business Advisory Committee. All of us were present there from the Government side. We were perfectly willing to have it listed. The senior leaders of the Opposition said, "Why do you want to list it?" We were even willing to allot time for it. The senior leaders of the Opposition said, "Why do you want to list it?"

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Who?

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: If you want me to name the (Interruptions)..

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: Madam, she cannot discuss here about the BAC meeting. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I don't know... (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, I have to say that the Government did not withdraw the Bill. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SIKANDER BAKHT: Madam, I don't want to interrupt here. I am sorry. Madam, will you give me a minute?

मैं इंटरप्ट नहीं करना चाहता था लेकिन उन्होंने कहा कि--

"Senior leaders of the Opposition". She has said, "Leaders". I am also one of them. Who opposed it? That is what I want her to make clear.

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: Madam, nobody ... (*Interruptions*). They never allow me to finish. That is the problem. It was

mentioned in the meeting, "Let the Lok Sabha pass it. Why do you want to allot time until the Lok Sabha passes it?" Therefore, it was not there. The Government did not wthdraw the Bill. Nobody from the Government said, "We should not have it". The Bill was listed by the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry. Since it was observed in the meeting that time need not be allotted until Lok Sabha passes the Bill, therefore, maybe, it is not in the list.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have not mentioned anything... ..(*Interruptions*).. Just one minute ..(*Interruptions*).. You people are not letting me put the record straight ..(*Interruptions*).. I have not mentioned anything that happened in the Business Advisory Committee. I only mentioned that last week, when the Government business was announced on the floor, it was listed. But in the business which I have announced now, it is not listed. That is all that I have said. Now let us go for the Calling Attention...(*Interruptions*)...

प्रो. विजयकुमार मल्होत्रा : मैडम, एक प्रिविलेज का सवाल है ..... **(व्यवधान)**

उपसभापति : ये क्या कह रहे हैं, सुनने दीजिए है... **(व्यवधान)**

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI: It is the responsibility of the Prime Minister...(*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will examine the minutes of the Business Advisory Committee...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, I seek your protection ..(*Interruptions*)... The House is entitled to know...(*Interruptions*)...

Madam, so many people have spoken in this House. You are not allowing anybody from my party to speak ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have been speaking all the time...(*Interruptions*) Nobody is objecting (*Interruptions*)...

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, allow me to speak...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी : मैं तो चाहता हूं कि विप्लव जी आप बोलिए मगर अपने लिए भी ये याद रखिए ... **(व्यवधान)** कल मैं खड़ा हुआ था तब आपने टोकाटाकी शुरू की थी । मैं तो चाहता हूं कि आप अंग्रेजी में बोलें, हिन्दी में बोलें, बंगला में बोलें । वह तो बहुत अच्छा है लेकिन अपने लिए भी याद रखिए । नसीहत हमको देंगे और अपनी बार में जब मैं कहूंगा तो आप कहेंगे कि ... **(व्यवधान)** अगर आपको टोकाटाकी अच्छी लगती है तो मुझे भी अच्छी लगती है ..**(व्यवधान)** वे प्रोफेसर हैं, जरा यह तय कर लें कि हमको अगर वे अपना शिष्य भी मानें तो अगर हम कभी सवाल उठाते हैं या कुछ पूछते हैं तो वह टोकाटाकी न करें । अभी हमने मसदुरहमान की बात की, उसी पर बिगड़ गए । मैं इसीलिए उनसे कहना चाहता हूं कि वीमैन रिप्रैजेंटेशन बिल के बारे में हम सभी लोग कह रहे हैं और जिस सरकार को आप सपोर्ट कर रहे हैं वही सरकार बिल नहीं ला रही है । उसी सरकार से हम यह निवेदन कर रहे हैं । करना क्या है आपको, आप अपनी रिपोर्ट विदड्रॉ कर लीजिए । आप सपोर्ट वापस ले लीजिए ऐसी सरकार से ... **(व्यवधान)**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What are you saying?...(*Interruptions*)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, you are not allowing me to speak ..(*Interruptions*).. Madam, will you allow me to speak? ..(*Interruptions*)..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is going on? I don't know what is going on ..(*Interruptions*)..

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Please allow him to speak...(*Interruptions*)...

उपसभापति : उनको बोलने दीजिए ... **(व्यवधान)**

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: What is happening? Are I not supposed to speaker? ..*(Interruptions)*..

श्री सतीश प्रधान (महाराष्ट्र) : हमारी बात क्यों नहीं सुनी जाती ... (व्यवधान हमारी बात कोई सुनता नहीं है .... **(व्यवधान)**

उपसभापति : आप बोलिए ।

श्री सतीश प्रधान : मैडम, मैं प्रिविलेज मोशन का नोटिस आपके पास दिया हैं । यहां की सब चीजें तोड़ डाली हैं, यहां का सब नक्शा चेंज कर दिया गया है और किसी को इस बारे में मालूम नहीं है ।

यह सब दूरदर्शन वालों ने तोड़ा । उनके मंत्री जी यहां नहीं थे । उनको इस विषय में कुछ जानकारी हैं या नहीं, मुझे नहीं मालूम । आपके पास इस बारे में प्रिविलेज मोशन का नोटिस देने के बावजूद अभी तक कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई हैं । कल हमने एक दूसरे प्रिविलेज मोशन पर चर्चा की थी। इसके बारे में क्या होने वाला है, यह मैं जनना चाहता हूं ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I don't understand what is happening ... *(Interruptions)*.. Just one second, Mr. Dasgupta, can I request you to sit down? ...*(Interruptions)*...

Mr. Pradhan has some problem, let him speak. I will allow you. He is so anergy. Let him speak, something You must have some consideration for the back-benchers. He is saying something Mr. Hanumanthappa, who is a quiet person has something to say. He does not create a ruckus in the House. He has been asking me permission to speak. He is sitting in front of me and I have not beeen able to allow him... *(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So let us go properly.

श्री त्रिलोकी नाथ चतुर्वेदी : हम समझते हैं कि गुस्सा होना उन्हीं की मानोपोली हैं और तो मोनोपोली का विरोध करेंगे, क्योंकि वह डा० विप्लव दासगुप्त हैं

I can be perpetually aurgry.

दूसरा कुछ कहे, बात करे तो उसके ऊपर नाराज होंगे । मुझको बस यही निवेदन करना हैं ।

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA: Madam, he is much stronger than me in lung-power. I cannot compete with him. But what is going on, Chaturvediji? *(Interruptions)* Will you allow me to speak? What is this? *(Interruptions)* Madam, my point is very simple. I am sure BJP will agree with me. There is a political problem. *(Interruptions)* The whole question on women is basically a political issue. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you just sit down for a minute. *(Interruptions)* I think it is the privilege of every Member to get angry except the Chair. If ever I get angry it makes a headline in the newspapers. That is why I am not getting angry.

श्री सतीश प्रधान : मैडम्, एक मिनट में खत्म कर रहा हूं ।

उपसभापति : गुस्सा मत कीजीए ।

Re: enhancement of saaries and allowances for Members of Parliament